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PITT

CREATED BY
DALE KEOWN

DALE KEOWN
creator/pencils/ ink/ story
BRIAN HOTTON
script
JOE CHIODO
colors
BRIAN HABERLIN
TYSON WENGLER
ASHBY MANSON
JUAN CARLOS RODRIGUEZ
LATEEF OP
JUDY HOSOBUCHI
CATHERINE BURCH
RICHARD ISANOVE
CYNTHIA MORRIS
computer colors
CHRIS ELIOPOULOS
letters
DAVID WOHL
editor
CHANCE WOLF
logo
CHRIS GUZMAN
production
PETER STEIGERWALD
design
PHILLIP FOXHOVEN
PITT business contact

for ***image comics***
LARRY MARDER
executive director
TONY LOBITO
publisher

for ***TOP COW:***
NICOLE D. MERKE
director of advertising
BRAD FOXHOVEN, S.F.W.
executive director, creative affairs
MARC SILVESTRI
the big guy

Full Bleed Business Correspondence: 36889 N. Tom Darlington Dr. P.O. Box 2800-297 Carefree, AZ 85377

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HIGH ARCTIC. FIFTEEN KILOMETERS DUE SOUTH OF THE NORTH POLE.
WHAT APPEARS TO BE AN ICEBERG AIMLESSLY ADRIFT IN THE ARCTIC OCEAN, IS IN FACT A SECRET FORTRESS OF ICE, STRONGHOLD TO AN ALIEN RACE KNOWN AS THE CREED. *
*LAST ISSUE.
INSIDE THE FORTRESS...
SO I ASK YOU, WHAT KIND OF DEPRAVED S.O.B.S WOULD KIDNAP AN UNCONSCIOUS EIGHT YEAR OLD CHILD FROM HIS HOSPITAL BED? WHAT COULD THEY POSSIBLY WANT FROM TIMMY? HE'S JUST A LITTLE BOY!
THE CREED ARE ON THE THRESHOLD OF A PLANETARY TAKEOVER. TO THEM, HUMAN EXISTANCE IS NO MORE THAN AN INFESTATION.
SO WHAT'S TO STOP THEM FROM ATTACKING US?
YOUR GRANDSON... AND THE POWERS OF LIGHT HE NOW POSSESSES.
IF THEY SO MUCH AS HARM A HAIR ON TIMMY'S HEAD, THEY'LL BE ANSWERING TO ME!
YOU WILL NEED THESE.
WELL, I'LL BE... YOU FOUND MY SPECTACLES!
THEY WERE ON THE HOSPITAL FLOOR.
CRACKED AS THEY ARE, AT LEAST NOW I CAN GET A BETTER LOOK AT OUR PREDICAMENT.
YOU WILL NOT LIKE WHAT YOU SEE.

TIMMY!
WHAT HAVE THEY DONE TO YA'?!
SNIVELLING COWARDS! YOU'VE NO RIGHT! NO RIGHT IN THIS WORLD TO HURT MY LAD!!
HE IS ALIVE...WE CAN STILL SAVE HIM.
TIMMY, CAN YA' HEAR ME? TIMMY, CAN YA' SEE--
ULP!
SAVE IT FOR BROADWAY, PAL!

NOT A STEP CLOSER, BIG GUY, OR GRANDPA BITES IT!
THESE ARE THE JERKS THAT TOOK US FROM THE HOSPITAL!
HUMANS, WORKING ALONGSIDE THE CREED?
THAT'S RIGHT, EINSTEIN, AND BY THE TIME THE DUST CLEARS, WE'LL BE THE WEALTHIEST HUMANS ON THIS ROCK!
MONEY? YOU'RE DOING THIS FOR MONEY!? YOU GREEDY BASTARDS!! GO AHEAD, PITT... RIP THEIR MISERABLE HEADS OFF, DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME!
AS YOU WISH.
I SWEAR, I'LL DO 'IM!
CAN YOU BE THAT STUPID?!
STAY BACK, MAN! I'LL WASTE THE OLD FART!

IF MY BROTHER WERE HALF THE WARRIOR HE ONCE WAS...
BRAM!
...YOU WOULDN'T BE AROUND TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION!
PHOOMPH!
WROTH!
WUMPH!

THE HEROES FOR HIRE: AXIOM ENT., HAVE BEEN WAITING OUTSIDE THE FORTRESS, MONITORING ANY SIGNS OF CHANGE.*
PITT, WHAT HAPPENED IN THERE?!
*LAST ISSUE.
NOTHING I CANNOT HANDLE. GO BACK TO YOUR SHIP!
BREACH THE FORTRESS AND SECURE THE BOY AND HIS ELDER!
AND YOU?
KHOOM
I HAVE ANOTHER MATTER TO DEAL WITH.

ZOHVOD SENDS HIS WARMEST REGARDS.
IT IS A SHAME YOU WILL NOT LIVE TO GREET FATHER...
...WHEN HE ARRIVES!

EMPTY WORDS FROM AN EMPTY SOUL.
ZOYVOD FAILED IN HIS ATTEMPTS.
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THIS TIME WILL BE ANY DIFFERENT?
WAR!
GRR

ULP!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?!
LIKE YOU, I AM A HYRID! AND ONE OF THE ONLY BEINGS...
CHUNK!
... ABLE TO DO YOU SERIOUS PHYSICAL DAMAGE!

DEEP WITHIN THE FORTRESS..
KYTE, LOOKS LIKE OUR FRIEND MAY NEED SOME BACK-UP.
I'M ONE STEP AHEAD OF YOU, SHARO
WHIPPP
O.K., O.K. STOP PUSHING!
I CAN'T BELIEVE I LET THESE GOONS CATCH ME OFF GUARD..
HOW CAN AN ALIEN BEING UNDERSTAND ENGLISH? THEY ACTUALLY BOUGHT THAT "TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER" SPEECH...
JUDGING BY HOW HARD THEY HIT ME, THESE GUYS ARE NO LIGHTWEIGHTS I THINK I COULD TAKE ONE OF THEM, BUT NOT BOTH
AH, WHAT THE HELL
WHACK!
CHOMH!

CLANK
CLICK
KA-BOOM!
HMMMM

WAK!
YOUR HUMAN SIDE MAKES YOU WEAK, PITT!
I RESEMBLE THAT REMARK
A FLYING HUMAN...! YOUR INNOCUOUS POWER IS NO MATCH FOR MINE!
OOOM!
ARGG!
PERHAPS NOT, BUT IF I TURN THESE WRIST CANNONS TO MAXIMUM, I CAN MAKE THINGS REALLY INTERESTING.
BOOM!

FORTRESS...
NO, LET HIM TALK THIS IS WHERE GRANDPA DEMANDS TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON. THEN, OF COURSE I'M SUPPOSED TO DEVULGE ALL OUR DEVIOUS PLANS OF DOMINATION AND DEBAUCHERY, THUS GIVING ADEQUATE TIME FOR THE GOOD GUYS TO SHOW UP AND SAVE THE DAY
IT WORKED ON MATLOCK.
A SENSE OF HUMOR... I LIKE THAT, AND BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO KILL YOU ANYWAY, I CAN REVEAL TO YOU THAT YOUR GRANDSON, TIMMY, POSSESSES WITHIN HIM THE POWER TO AVERT AN INTENDED HOSTILE TAKEOVER OF THIS ENTIRE PLANET
THE GENTLEMAN YOU SEE HANGING THERE IS DETECTIVE JACK SMITHERS. DETECTIVE SMITHERS WAS IMPLANTED WITH CREED MICRO-TECHNOLOGY THIS IMPLANTATION OCCURRED BACK WHEN HE AND DETECTIVE BOBBE HARRAS ENCOUNTERED THE FIRST BOUNTY HUNTERS *
YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS... NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!
SHUT UP, OLD MAN!
*ISSUE #1
WITH THIS MICRO-TECHNOLOGY, WORKING IN CONJUNCTION WITH A CREED ORBITING SATELLITE, ZOYVOD CAN SUCCESSFULLY MANIFEST HIMSELF THROUGH OUR MAN JACK HERE
WITHOUT ZOYVOD'S INFLUENCE, THERE CAN BE NO INVASION.
SO BY FREEZING YOUNG TIMMY, HE BECOMES RENDERED IN A STATE WHICH ALLOWS ZOYVOD TO ENTER HIS SUBCONSCIOUS AND ERADICATE THE CHILD OF LIGHT KNOWN AS JEREB.
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL PLAN, WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?

THERE IS NOTHING BEAUTIFUL ABOUT CHILD ABUSE!
RAI-KEE?!
YOU ARE A TRA,TOR TO YOUR OWN RACE, PROFESSOR HOLDSWORTH WHY?
ZOYVOD W LLS IT.
T SOUNDS L KE YOU HAVE BEEN SUBCON SC.OASLY INFL.ENCED PROFESSOR
SNAP OUT OF IT! ALL OF YOU! DO YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVE THE CREED ARE GO NG TO LET YOU L VE?
K'LL THE HUMAN 'NTER_OPERS! ZOYVOD WILLS IT!
MR. BRACKEN, MAKE A RUN FOR IT!
BOUT!
BOUT!

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JAT!
YOU'RE A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES, MY DEAR!
JAT!
SAVE IT FOR LATER, AND KEEP BLASTING!
BAM!
BACK ON SHORE..
PITT!
HOW ARE YA HOLDING UP?
YOU'RE POWERS ARE NEEDED ELSEWHERE!
I AM IN CONTROL!
I BEG TO DIFFER, LITTLE BROTHER!
CHAMCK!
FROM YOUR ACCURSED FIRST BREATH TO THIS MOMENT...
SLASH!
YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN IN CONTROL, AND NEVER WILL!

SHUT UP!!
BOUT!
NICE REBUTTAL.
YAH!
BOOM
BAM!
BUT PLEASE, LET ME INTERJECT!

DEEP IN THE BOWELS OF THE ICE FORTRESS, WHILE ALL HELL IS BREAKING LOOSE, THE RESOLUTION UNFOLDS.
IT IS A SLOW PROCESS
SAFE TO SAY, A OUT WRENCHING EXPERIENCE FOR THE POOR SOUL WHO MUST ACT AS HOST FOR THE UNVEILING.
THIS MUST END.
NOW.
THAT BOUGHT US SOME TIME HERE, LET ME HOIST YOU OVER TO THE ICE BERG.
I TOLD YOU--
I KNOW, I KNOW.. YOU DON'T NEED MY HELP

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ALL AT ONCE. BLINDING WHITE LIGHT CONTRADICTS DARKNESS IT HAPPENS IN AN INSTANT, AND RATHER VIOLENTLY, CONSIDERING ITS BENEVOLENT SOURCE
THE SCREAMS OF JACKSMITHERS FADE TO BLACK AS A BEAM OF PURE CLARITY EXTENDS UP..
..INTO THE VACUUM OF SPACE...
PITT! GO LIMP, DUDE!

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... REACHING ITS INTENDED TARGET.
BA CHOW!
CHOOM!
THE ICEBERG!
IT'S BLOWING!
BOOM!
THE THREAT OF ZOYVOD AND HIS CREED IS EXTINGUISHED...
... AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING.
STABILIZING
I'M GETTING A TRANSMISSION
I SEE THEM.
PICK THEM UP FAST, IT'S FREEZING OUT THERE

MOMENTS LATER...
DO YOU THINK HE'LL BE OKAY?
I THINK SO, KYTE. THANKS TO SAURAS'S T.C.A.* HOW ARE YOU HOLDING UP, BIG GUY?
WAIT A MINUTE, RAI-KEE. THE INFRA-RED WAVES OF THE T.C.A. MAY CAUSE IRREPARABLE TISSUE DAMAGE.
C-COLD.
*TEMPERATURE CONTROL APPARATUS.
DON'T WORRY, SHIRO, I'VE GOT IT COVERED... LITERALLY.
AFTER ALL, MY NAME IS RAI-KEE.*
*A 2,500 YEAR-OLD NATURAL CHINESE HEALING PROCESS USING UNIVERSAL LIFEFORCE ENERGY. CORRECT SPELLING "REIKI."
WE'RE PICKING UP PITT'S SIGNAL.

MOVING INTO POSITION.
IT'S A GOOD THING HE AGREED TO WEAR A TRANSMITTER.
YOW! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
THE CIRCLE IS COMPLETE. MY ESSENCE HAS FULFILLED ITSELF. I MUST RETURN HOME. I AM NOW ONE WITH THE POWERS OF LIGHT.*
*SEER, ISSUE #1.
I AM GREATLY INDEBTED TO YOU, PITT. YOU KEPT ME ALIVE AT GREAT RISK TO YOURSELF AND OTHERS
YOU WILL REMAIN HERE ON EARTH, THIS IS YOUR HOME NOW.
BEFORE I LEAVE, THERE IS ONE THING I MUST SHARE WITH YOU.

THE TRUTH:

NEW YORK...
PENTHOUSE...
WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW THAT YOU ARE A FREE MAN? SO TO SPEAK.
I WILL GO NOW.
WHAT ABOUT THE BOY?
I WON'T BE FAR.
SOMEONE IN THE KITCHEN?
TIMMY! YOU'RE AWAKE?! GOOD LORD, I DON'T BELIEVE IT.
LOOK GRANDPA, I FOUND SOME COUNT CHOCULA IN THE CUPBOARD.
IT FEELS LIKE I DIDN'T EAT ANYTHING FOR AT LEAST TWO YEARS.
THE END.